

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 PM-07

PCH-08 INR-10 INRE-00 SSO-00 RSC-01 /121 R

DRAFTED BY:NEA TASK FORCE WWRIGHT

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S/S-O RWRIGHT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULARPOSTS IMMEDIATE

NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE 2702

USDEL SALT TWO IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

JCS/NMCC IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

CINCRED IMMEDIATE

CSA IMMEDIATE

CNO IMMEDIATE

MAC SCOTT AFB

CMC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

S E C R E T STATE 208585

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XX

SUB: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

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1. FOLLOWING FYI IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING OCT. 19.

2. MILITARY SITUATION. SYRIAN FRONT: THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE IDF AT 1815 (LOCAL TIME) TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN ARMORED FORCES HAD AGAIN ATTACKED THE IDF BUT AGAIN BEEN THROWN BACK. SYRIAN SPOKESMAN CLAIMED SUCCESS IN STOPPING ISRAELI ARMORED ATTACKS.

3. EGYPTIAN FRONT: THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE IDF AT HIS NOON BRIEFING ANNOUNCED THAT THE IDF TASK FORCE WEST OF THE CANAL HAD NOW GOTTEN 300 TANKS ACROSS AND MOUNTED A THREE-PRONGED OFFENSIVE, ONE IN THE DIRECTION OF CAIRO, ANOTHER GROUP IS HEADING SOUTHWEST TO CUT MAIN EGYPTIAN SUPPLY LINES FROM CAIRO TO SUEZ, THE THIRD FORCE IS HEADING SOUTH TO DESTROY MISSILE AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT SITES WHICH HAVE BEEN HAMPERING ISRAELI AIR ACTIVITY OVER SINAI.

4. COUNTERATTACKING EGYPTIAN TROOPS WERE REPORTEDLY REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES. THE ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS THAT THE ROAD TO CAIRO IS ,WIDE OPEN AND MOST OF THE "MISSILE BELT" HAS BEEN DESTROYED. CAIRO REPORTS THAT FIERCE FIGHTING IN SINAI CONTINUES.

5. DIPLOMATIC SITUATION. DEPT. SPOKESMAN INDICATED AT NOON BRIEFING THAT FOLLOWING KOSYGIN'S CAIRO VISIT THAT HE EXPECTED COMMUNICATIONS AND EXCHANGES TO INTENSIFY BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. HE SAID SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER MAY DELAY HIS DEPARTURE FOR CHINA TO THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK BECAUSE OF THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION.

6. WASHINGTON. PRESIDENT NIXON SENT A REQUEST TO CONGRESS FOR \$2.2 BILLION IN EMERGENCY MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL. APPROPRIATIONS CHAIRMAN MAHON (DEM.) REPRESENTATIVE TEXAS, EXPRESSED DOUBT AS TO THE NEED FOR NEW LEGISLATION, SUGGESTING THAT THERE IS ADEQUATE AUTHORITY UNDER EXISTING LAW. CONCERN WAS ALSO VOICED IN THE CONGRESS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AMERICAN TROOP INVOLVEMENT. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: STATE MSG 208585 POUCHED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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